

CSCE Lands \$100 Million Contract to Provide Training for BAE Systems

BAE Systems recently awarded a \$100 million training contract to the Division of Continuing Studies and Corporate Education (CSCE) through a competitive bidding process. CSCE will provide an information technology certificate program to BAE's Information and Electronic Warfare Systems employees on-site at their Nashua, N.H. headquarters.

Information and Electronic Warfare Systems is a business unit within BAE Systems North America. It is a major producer of aircraft self-protection systems and tactical surveillance and intelligence systems for all branches of the armed forces.

"BAE Systems hopes to use this project as a demonstration model that can be delivered to other corporate locations nationally, such as Yonkers, N.Y. and Manassas, Va., desiring this skill set," said Dr. Jacqueline Moloney, dean of CSCE.

With the help of Prof. Ann-Marie Hurley of the Mathematics Department, the Information Technology Certificate in Software Release Engi-

neering track was customized to meet the specific needs of BAE employees. It consists of seven courses that will be provided over the next year and a half. According to Hurley, the coursework will prepare the participants to set up software libraries, develop software, write script and conduct network configuration management.

"The University's strong record in delivering high-quality information technology programs to the corporate sector, especially in high demand areas such as Oracle, Perl and Client-Server training, is one of the major reasons UMass Lowell's bid was accepted," said Catherine Kendrick, director of corporate and



▲ BAE Systems' corporate headquarters, located in Nashua, N.H., is the site of a certificate program in information technology provided by the Division of Continuing Studies and Corporate Education. The \$100 million multi-year contract will train BAE employees to set up software libraries, develop software, write script and conduct network configuration management.

distance marketing development, CSCE.

BAE has the option to continue the program for a second round, as well as expand it to other locations. Information and Electronic Warfare Systems employs some 4,400 people at major locations in Nashua, Merrimack and Hudson, N.H., Lexington, Mass., Pomona, Calif., Yonkers, N.Y., and Manassas, Va.

John Walsh will be the corporate onsite manager and Kendrick will oversee the program. The first course, "C Programming," was completed in the fall and the "C++ Programming" course began in January. Credits earned through the certificate program can be applied towards a bachelor's degree in information technology.

—EK

The Sand Pile Solution Confirms That the Cranberries Will Be Safe

The problem was this: How do you build the road without destroying the cranberry bogs?

The road is Route 44, a new section of highway in southeastern Massachusetts, leading to Cape Cod. The bogs are directly in its path and it would have been unacceptable, environmentally and otherwise, to destroy them.

The solution was to construct a steel-walled, miles-long trench through the bogs, remove all the peat that lies beneath them, and fill the trench with material—sand and gravel—that would support the highway. While the road admittedly would take up some of the bog space, the steel walls would prevent mud and other material from spreading and destroying the entire harvesting area.

The question then became, would the peat outside the trench be capable of supporting the outsides of the walls, preventing them from toppling into the bogs?

The answer to that was found in a measurement system described by Prof. Sam Paikowsky of Civil and Environmental Engineering in an invited lecture he gave last month to members of the Geotechnical Group of the Engineering Department at the University of Cambridge in England.

The title of that presentation, "The Application of Grid-Based Tactile Pressure Technology to Discontinuous Materials," obviously made no reference to cranberries. It did, however, deal with sand piles, which, oddly enough, apply to the cranberry bog project.

In his Cambridge lecture, Paikowsky quotes the following from an August 1996 issue of Science Magazine: "The humble

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Hall Receives \$1 Million to Further Alzheimer's Research on Sea Lampreys

Assoc. Prof. Garth Hall has spent the better part of 20 years studying Alzheimer's disease on the cellular level using sea lampreys. While other Alzheimer's research has gotten more attention, Hall persisted in believing that the need for the lampreys would come. With a \$1 million grant from the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and a collaboration with a company to test drug interactions, Hall is



▲ Assoc. Prof. Garth Hall

hoping that his lamprey research will be put on the map.

"These are long-term experiments on a single cell level and are very unique," says Hall of the NIA research. "This is the first system to get tau filaments to develop."

Through Hall's research, it is becoming clear that how tau, a normal protein,

develops in Alzheimer's patients is key to isolating the problem. In Alzheimer's patients, tau develops

abnormally displaying neurofibrillary tangles or filaments. The theory is that these filaments are what cause degeneration. The live lamprey experiments are the first to get tau filaments to develop, which has wide-reaching research possibilities.

According to the "Journal of Cell Science," describing Hall's cover article, the question of "whether neurofibrillary tangles are a cause or consequence of neurodegeneration has remained unclear because of the absence of a cellular model in which they can be generated." Hall's research will help uncover the answer.

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Task Force Formed to Reduce Teen Worker Injuries

One of the responsibilities “Ron” had at the toy store was stocking shelves. One day, while he was standing on a ladder, the shelves that the ladder was leaning against gave way, sending Ron to the floor and, later, to the hospital. Doctors at the emergency room told him he had sprained his back and rotator cuff. The fall caused him to miss 11 days of work, and he expects to feel recurring pain the rest of his life.

While it’s not unusual for a worker to experience an occasional injury at work, it causes concern when that worker is only 17 years old, as Ron was. Concerned with the high number of similar stories, community leaders, business people and citizens groups have been brought together to form the Massachusetts Young Workers Initiative Task Force, which will develop recommendations to prevent the rash of teen injuries like the one that happened to Ron.

“We’d like to think that stories like Ron’s are uncommon,” says David Wegman, director of UMass Lowell’s Department of Work Environment and task force member. “But, actually, each year in the United States over 200,000 teenagers are injured at work.”

“Working teens get a lot of burns, sprains and cuts,” says Prof. John Wooding of Regional, Economic and Social Development and also a task force member. “Fatalities are rare, but they happen.”

According to the Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (MCOSH), a non-profit workplace health and safety advocacy group, 70 U.S. teenagers died on the job last year, four in the Bay State.

Teens have minimal work experience, and may receive less health and safety training than a regular employee. Over 50 percent of injured



▲ Prof. John Wooding

teens report never having received health and safety training.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health says that 26 percent of teens who had experienced cuts or lacerations at work, seemingly minor injuries, expected permanent loss of sensation, impaired movement, or persistent pain as a result. Sixty-nine percent thought their injuries could have been prevented by better training and supervision, a slower work pace, better job design, or safer equipment.

Previous efforts in Massachusetts to protect teens in the workplace have been fragmented, according to Marcy Goldstein-Gelb, executive director of MCOSH. “We need a comprehensive plan that will encompass parent, teen and employer education, enforcement of existing regulations, and changes in the environments in which teens work.”

The task force will meet monthly through April. If you would like to know more, contact Marcy Goldstein-Gelb at MCOSH, 617-825-7233, ext. 15, or Prof. Wooding, ext. 4257.

Former Mattel President to Speak at Senior Executive Forum

Joseph C. Gandolfo, retired president of World Wide Operations for Mattel Corporation, will be speaking to students on Monday, Feb. 25 at 1:30 p.m. in the Engineering Conference Room, Kitson 309.

Gandolfo graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from the Lowell Technological Institute in 1966. Prior to joining Mattel, he had a long career with General Electric Co., where he rose to the position of general manager of North American manufacturing. Galdolfo retired from Mattel Corporation in 2000 and received an honorary doctorate at UMass Lowell’s June 2001 commencement.

Sponsored by the College of Management and the Francis College of Engineering, the Senior Executive Forum is a series of six guest speakers sharing insights from their experience and conveying what industry is looking for in the future workforce.

Take Note

Take Note: Papers Requested for CITA’s Sixth Conference

The Committee on Industrial Theory and Assessment (CITA) invites paper submissions for the sixth annual conference on “Approaches to Sustainable Regional Development: Supporting Public Health and a Healthy Society,” scheduled for November 7-9.

Papers topics might include the implications of diversity in public health and a healthy society, the overall public health infrastructure, and the impact of universities on a healthy and healthful economy.

A one-page abstract summarizing the proposed paper should be submitted by March 1, to Nancy Hodge, Nancy_Hodge@uml.edu. For additional information, contact CITA Co-Chairs Linda Silka, ext. 4675, or John Wooding, ext. 4257.

Bus Tour of Merrimack Valley Literary Sites

Tickets are available for a guided bus tour of literary sites in the Merrimack Valley on Saturday, April 27. The “Poetry Crawl” is part of the daylong program “400 Years of Poetry in the Merrimack Valley” organized by the Robert Frost Foundation of Lawrence in recognition of National Poetry Month. The bus tour (1 to 5:30 p.m.) will stop at Frost sites in Lawrence, The John Greenleaf Whittier Birthplace in Haverhill and the Whittier Home in Amesbury, the Anne Bradstreet Memorial in North Andover, and winds up in Lowell with stops at Kerouac Park and Lucy Larcom Park. Tickets are \$12.50 per person, and may be reserved by calling 978-725-8828 or by mailing a check to the Frost Foundation, 439 South Union Street, Lawrence, 01843. For more information, contact Paul Marion, community relations, ext. 3107.

Dickens’ Performance Will Sport a Lowell Twist

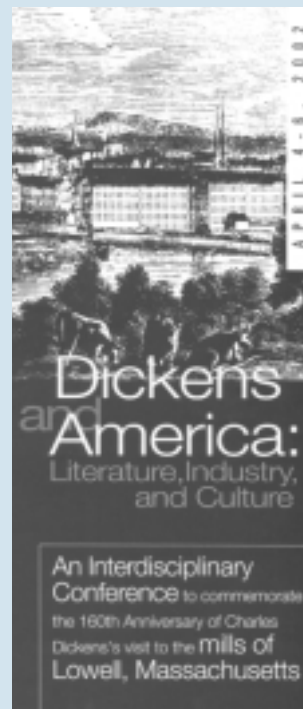
Gerald Charles Dickens is reshaping an entire act of his original piece, “The Republic of My Imagination,” in time for his appearance at UMass Lowell in April. The revised portions will include many of Charles Dickens’ musings on his visit to Lowell in 1842. The elder Dickens admired the organization and management of the Lowell mills. However, they also made him recall the dark days of his own childhood in the factories of London.

Gerald Dickens, the great-great-grandson of the inimitable author, will be in Lowell to participate in the “Dickens and America Conference and Festival” to be hosted on campus April 4-6. While on campus, he will present two evening performances for the public: the world premiere of “The Republic of My Imagination” on April 4, and a presentation of “Mr. Dickens is Coming” on April 6. In the latter work, Dickens portrays the life of his ancestor, from a child in debtor’s prison to a world-famous author in old age.

Tickets are \$8.50 for adults, \$5 for seniors and college students, and free for students under 18 years old. The performances are not recommended for children under

10. There will be a book-signing immediately following both performances. Partial funding is being provided by the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities.

For tickets, call (978) 934-4444, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information on all conference and festival events, log onto www.uml.edu/dickens.



Hotels, Car Rentals, Restaurants, to Offer Big Discounts to Alumni

The wallets and pocketbooks of UMass Lowell alumni will now be just a little fatter, thanks to a new initiative from the University Alumni Office that offers discounts on everything from restaurants to a rental cars.

The new program, "Proud to Partner," features reductions of between 10 and 30 percent on car rentals, hotel chains, clothiers, and movie theatres nationwide, as well as at an assortment of retailers in Greater Lowell.

The car rentals companies include most of the popular names: Budget, Hertz, Avis, National, Alamo, Enterprise, and auto europe, with discounts as high as 30 percent. The hotel chains are: Rodeway, Econo Lodge, Main Stay Suites, and Choice

Hotels International, all offering 20 percent off prices.

Clothier Jos. A. Banks likewise offers 20 percent off merchandise at its stores, while General Cinemas features reductions as high as 43 percent for movie tickets purchased by mail.

Local retailers involved in the "Proud to Partner" program include: the American Textile History Museum and Gazebo Café, Barnes and Noble Campus Bookstore, the Brewhouse Café and Grill, Cobblestone's Restaurant, Fortunato's Restaurant, the Old Court Restaurant, Inzio Spa, and all Riverhawk hockey games.

For further information, phone Deme Gys in the Alumni Relations Office at ext. 4810.

McCutcheon Will Take the Stage in March Discovery Series Performance

John McCutcheon, internationally-known for close to two decades as a singer, storyteller, fiddler and songwriter, will make a single, one-hour appearance at Durgin Hall on the UMass Lowell South Campus March 3 at 2 p.m. His performance, sponsored by the UMass Lowell Athletic Department, is the latest presentation of the UMass Lowell Discovery Series, now in its 15th year.

McCutcheon, whose performances have sold out around the world for years, won five successive Grammy nominations—an unprecedented achievement—for Best Children's Musical Recording. He is a master of at least six instruments—the guitar, banjo, piano, fiddle, autoharp and hammer dulcimer—as well as a writer of children's books.

Tickets are \$9.00. The theatre is handicapped-accessible, and free parking is nearby. For more information, phone the box office at ext. 4444.



▲ John McCutcheon

Fox Hall Program Serves Bagels and English

Students at Fox Hall can now attend class in their pajamas—at least theoretically—through the Living Education at Residential North Program (LEARN). The College of Arts and Sciences, in conjunction with Residence Life, is now offering students two courses they can take at Fox five mornings a week.

Last fall, 38 Fox residents enrolled in the "paired" classes, a section each of College Writing and Introduction to Ethics. Students and faculty alike so enjoyed the arrangement that they doubled the offering this semester: four sections of College Writing II and two sections each of Introduction to Ethics and Introduction to Comparative Political Systems.

Residence Life Director Larry Siegel says that space on the sixth floor of the residence hall was converted to four modern classrooms and a fully-equipped faculty office. The idea was conceived to offer students the convenience of "learning in their home."

Siegel says the program's conveniences are many: class sizes of 25 or less, little commute time, and air-conditioned classrooms to name a few.

"It was really an 'if you build it, they will come' philosophy," Siegel explained.

In addition to completing some of their general education requirements, students have received "out of class enrichments" as well. In October, students went on group outings to the Merrimack Repertory Theatre and attended a University hockey game. Siegel says these joint activities

encourage the students to "get to know each other as a support group."

Besides the convenience, Dean Nancy Kleniewski believes the program will build a greater sense of community among students and faculty, especially since the students wind up taking more than one class with the same people who live down the hall. Everyone gets to know each other better.



▲ Prof. Marie Salamone, English, confers with freshman philosophy major Cory Fournier before class at Fox Hall. The University's new LEARN program is allowing students to take some of their general education requirements in new classrooms inside the residence hall.

Siegel reports that classes also have included some commuter students, thus increasing their sense of connection to the campus community as well.

Kleniewski says that the "learning community" concept will provide students with "common threads." She plans to promote the idea with incoming freshmen next fall as a way to better acclimate them to campus life.

Area Girls will be Coached, Hosted, Fed at UMass Lowell This Spring

Up to 320 school-age girls from the Lowell area, many of them at-risk or unable to pay the cost of mainstream after-school sports programs, will learn the basics of field hockey—or softball, volleyball or soccer—at UMass Lowell this spring.

A total of eight clinics with up to 40 girls in each—two clinics in all four sports—will offer their participants 90 minutes of instruction, 30 minutes of educational programming, plus lunch and a swim, Saturdays and Sundays from February to May. All eight clinics will be free—as will the t-shirt given to every girl who takes part.

The clinics are being sponsored jointly by the UMass Lowell athletic department and the National Youth Sports Program (NYSP), a nationally-acclaimed sports training and enrichment program for at-risk youths 10 to 16. Every summer since 1992, the NYSP, funded in part through federal grants, has hosted a five-week educational program on the UMass campus, instructing 300 Lowell-area youngsters in everything from sports and personal nutrition to math, science and the dangers of alcohol abuse.

The girl's sports clinics, which are entirely separate from the five-week summer program, will be run by UMass Lowell coaches and student-athletes. All eight will be held on the UMass campus, as follows: field hockey and soccer at the Cushing Field Complex, volleyball in the Costello Gym (both of these are on North Campus); and softball at Riverview Field on South Campus. Any rained-out clinics will take place in Costello Gym.

"The program is targeted at at-risk girls, though I'm not limiting it to them," says Lynn Dungey, the marketing assistant in the Athletic Department who is coordinating the program. "We've sent the information out to the school system, the local summer-camp data sites, as well as to staff and faculty kids. Any girls who shows up, if she's from the area and between 10 and 16, she's more than welcome to join."

There are inducements aplenty. For every clinic attended, participants names will be entered in a prize drawing—which will take place May 18, the final day of the program, at a "Closing Ceremonies" pizza party, just following the last softball clinic, at Riverview Field.

Parents are welcome to drop off girls directly at their campus clinic locations. If this is not convenient, transportation will be provided to and from the Greenhaldge, Shaughnessy, Morey, and Moody Schools.

For further information, a schedule of clinics, or to register, phone Lynn Dungey at ext. 4988. Or e-mail her: Lynn_Dungey@uml.edu



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The Sand Pile Solution Confirms That the Cranberries Will Be Safe

sand pile is to granular mechanics what Fermat's Last Theorem was to number theory—a tantalizingly simple problem that stubbornly eludes a solution. The question is this: Where does a conical pile of poured sand exert its maximum amount of pressure on the ground?"



▲ Prof. Sam Paikowsky

One would assume that the maximum amount of pressure would be exerted on the ground directly under the peak of the sand pile. That, of course, would be incorrect.

Using tactile pressure sensors, Paikowsky has demonstrated that there is a pressure dip—or crater—at the very center of the pile. This redistribution of stress, called "arching," has practical application in, for example, the construction of tunnels.

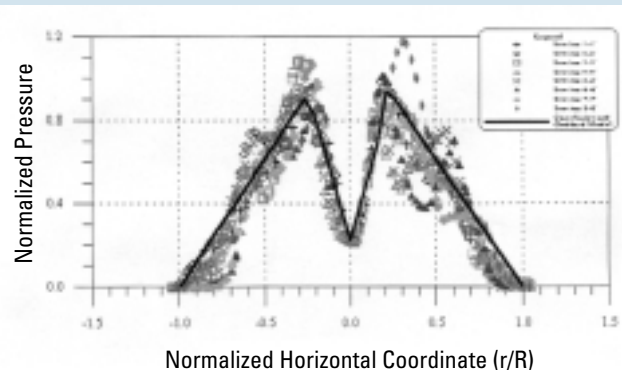
"If you calculate the load on the tunnel as the weight of soil, it's enormous," Paikowsky explains. "In practice, the soil is able to bridge, or arch, stress away from the tunnel to the adjacent area—just as in the pile of sand."

"This grid base sensor is quite a revolutionary device that we started using five or six years ago in cooperation with a company (Tekscan Corp.) in Boston," Paikowsky says.

It took five years of research to reach the point where this technology could be implemented accurately, he says, adding that much of the work on the sand pile problem was done by one of his graduate students, Larry Rolwes, a 4.0 student who was valedictorian of the class of 2001.

The Route 44 trench-wall project represents "the first time that this technology will be applied to full-scale construction," the professor says.

—JMCD



▲ This graph, generated by tactile pressure sensors, shows that a pressure dip exists at the center of a sand pile. This redistribution of stress, called "arching," has practical application in projects such as tunnel construction.



Edwards and Edwards Collaborate in Life and Art

▲ Painter Judith Edwards and sculptor Ron Edwards, flanked by Michele Auger, gallery coordinator, left, and Prof. Jim Coates, Arts Chair, are featured in the exhibit, "Edwards and Edwards." The exhibit will be on display until Feb. 20 in the University Gallery in the McGauvran Student Center, Monday through Saturday from noon to 3 p.m. For information, call ext. 3491.

Book by Levenstein, DeLaurier and Dunn Details Set to Launch March 11

The Cotton Dust Papers" is described as a "fascinating and accessible piece of historical detective work" about the discovery of byssinosis, a debilitating lung disease afflicting cotton textile workers in this country. Charles Levenstein and Gregory F. DeLaurier, with Mary Lee Dunn, all of the Work Environment Department, wrote the book, which is published by Baywood Publishing. Publishers Weekly calls the book "a conscientious account."

A book-signing event is scheduled for Monday, March 11 at 3:30 p.m. at the Mogan Cultural Center, 40 French Street, in downtown Lowell. The Work Environment Department and Mogan Cultural Center Community Committee will sponsor the book launch.

Levenstein is Professor of Work Environment Policy, DeLaurier works on various projects in the department, and Dunn is the department's director of communications and a graduate student in Regional Economic and Social Development (RESO). Faculty members William Mass of RESO and Susan Woskie of Work Environment contributed to two chapters in the book.

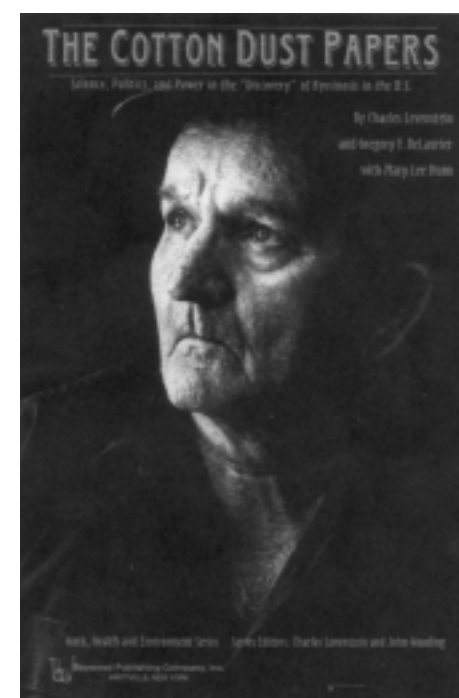
The book describes how U.S. manufacturers kept the disease a secret until the 1960s, even though it was well known in Europe. "The authors contend that this pernicious disease could have and should have been recognized much sooner, as a great deal was known about the disease as early as the 1930s," according to the publisher. "Yet this story also shows how a progressive coalition of labor and other forces can cause an industry to break ranks and finally acknowledge the existence of an occupational disease. 'The Cotton Dust Papers' is thus a cautionary tale of how social arrangements can either perpetuate or help to overcome human suffering."

Levenstein explains in his foreword that he "found" the story when he held a traineeship at Harvard School of Public Health from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health: "Our ad hoc seminar on the history of occupational lung diseases, sponsored by the

Occupational Health Program and the History of Science Department, involved graduate students and some faculty in what was ostensibly an antiquarian discussion, but one which rapidly became political." He also thanks Work Environment Chair David H. Wegman and faculty member Margaret Quinn for encouraging the project.

Levenstein had a partially completed manuscript for some time when he involved DeLaurier and Dunn in completing the work. The book offers an overview of textile production in Massachusetts a century ago, then follows the mills as they relocate in the South, and returns to New England in describing the career of the primary investigator of the disease—Dr. Arend Bouhuys—who finally succeeded in exposing byssinosis as a problem in American factories. The book provides an intimate glimpse at how science sometimes operates, and makes clear that it is not always a value-neutral endeavor.

The hardcover edition, with a cover photo of a workman by well-known occupational photographer Earl Dotter of Md., is available in the North Campus bookstore and from Baywood, on the internet at www.baywood.com.



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Hall Receives \$1 Million to Further Alzheimer's Research on Sea Lampreys

Once the filaments have developed, Hall hopes the NIA research results will further prove the development of the tau filaments and their relationship to Alzheimer's disease by looking at the interaction between tau and another protein, amyloid, and trying to replicate the degeneration using mutative diseases other than Alzheimer's. The research will be conducted over the next four years.

Hall is also collaborating with Dr. Lester Beinder, a renowned cellular researcher, and his Chicago-based company, NeuroNautics, Inc. Hall will be testing whether drugs can block tau filament formation.

—EK

Superintendents' Forums Showcase Best Practices

Making sure the classes run on time may be the first priority for school superintendents. Finding the time to learn about what other superintendents are doing around the Commonwealth - what's working and what's not - can be challenging. The Superintendents' Forums, sponsored by the Center for Field Services and Studies, affords that opportunity for about a two-hour time commitment every other month. If attendance at this year's series on West Campus—focused on sharing "best practices"—is any indication, the superintendents value the service.

"The focus is to make this a collegial group for them," said Judith Boccia, director of the Center for Field Services and Studies. "In 1995, we invited area superintendents in and asked them what we could do for them. They said they really needed a place to get together without being required to be there." The program

has run since then, involving about 30 superintendents in the Merrimack Valley and North of Boston regions. Superintendents choose the theme at the beginning of the school year. "It fits a need they have," said Boccia, "and it certainly is a benefit to us, because we learn a lot."

At the December forum, about a dozen superintendents learned about a service learning program in place in the Hudson, Mass., school system. Superintendent Sheldon Berman said the goal is to involve children in their community. Berman cited a 1997 study of freshmen in higher education showing that students were "less connected to politics than any entering class in the 32-year history of the study."

But, interestingly, the students were volunteering "more than ever." Knowing that politics would not motivate kids, Berman took a different approach to getting kids involved. Under the program developed in Hudson, children serve the community, in ways that are integrated with their studies.

The projects range from having high school science students teach in the elementary grades to adopting ponds for environmental clean up as part of the science curriculum.

Berman is finding that students are more excited about learning, and Hudson residents are more excited about the schools. A slide Berman



▲ In December, area superintendents heard about service learning from Hudson Superintendent Sheldon Berman, right. With him are, from left, Forum Coordinator David Troughton, superintendent of North Reading Schools, and the Graduate School of Education's Patricia Fontaine and Judith Boccia, director of the Center for Field Services and Studies.

showed flashing Hudson newspaper headlines, clearly indicated that the projects are connecting students with the rest of the town. The success stories have generated so much support for the service learning program that the new high school was designed around it. The building will be separated into four clusters for grades 10 through 12 so that learning communities can be organized around service learning themes.

As for politics and civic involvement, Berman hopes to change student attitudes through direct democracy. Berman's faculty have begun to have all-student meetings that address issues of concern to all. Berman said the students have taken on two challenges so far. The first is one of the broadest and most pervasive high school problems—how to deal with social cliques—and the second is far narrower—how to improve school lunches.

At the January forum, superinten-

dents brought their curriculum directors to hear about a teacher professional development program called Teachers as Scholars (TAS). A Teachers as Scholars instructor, Michael Downing, demonstrated TAS by treating them as his class. After handing out Blue Books to the participants, Downing asked everyone to answer three questions that got discussion rolling. Superintendents then read an Augusto Monterroso one-page fable, "The Eclipse," with the last paragraph missing. Participants then wrote an ending and shared their responses.

"Teachers are smart, thinking adults who want to be treated as smart, thinking adults," said Teachers as Scholars Director Henry Bolter, who developed the program in partnership with the Harvard Graduate School of Education. While this program differs from most others in that the training is provided off site and does not offer a curriculum, Bolter believes it works because it generates enthusiasm. The teachers bring, if not the material itself, then the approach, back to the classroom, reinvigorating their own classrooms.

Karla Brooks Baehr, superintendent of Lowell Public Schools, said teachers in the districts she had worked in prior to Lowell had participated in the program. "It was an experience that deepened the intellectual life of the faculty," she said. She and Tsongas Industrial History Center Director Peter O'Connell are exploring running a pilot Teachers as Scholars program from the Tsongas Center for area school districts. They will be assessing interest from the roughly 42 superintendents who are invited to the forums.

Two more forums are scheduled for this school year, one on teacher standards and the other on teacher quality.



▲ In January, area superintendents became "Superintendents as Scholars" in a class taught by Michael Downing, center, of Teachers as Scholars and Tufts University. He is joined by, from left, N. Reading Superintendent David Troughton, TAS Director Henry Bolter, Lowell Schools Superintendent Karla Brooks Baehr, and Tsongas Industrial History Center Director Peter O'Connell.

Faculty Institute Looks to Incorporate Diversity into Course Requirements

The Center for Diversity and Pluralism recently sponsored a Faculty Institute to explore ways in which diversity could be incorporated into general education requirements.

"We wanted to collectively develop a framework of meanings of diversity," said Prof. Anne Mulvey, acting director of the Center of Diversity and Pluralism, who facilitated the workshop with Sylvia Cowan from Lesley University.

Faculty talked about current courses approved to fulfill the gen.

ed. requirement and how courses can be adapted to include themes of diversity. Presenters included Prof. Melissa Pennell, English; Asst. Prof. Monica Galizzi, economics; Prof. Jonathan Leibowitz, history; and Lee Vorderer, psychology.

Eight faculty members participated in the institute, including Asst. Prof. Todd Avery, English; Prof. Gilbert Brown, chemical and nuclear engineering; Asst. Prof. Khanh T. Dinh, psychology; Assoc. Prof. Sharon George, nursing; Prof. Mary Kramer, English; Assoc. Prof.

Marlowe Miller, English; Deirdra Murphy, clinical coordinator in physical therapy; and Chandrika Sharma, coordinator of disability services.

In April, the Center is planning follow-up meetings bringing together the winter participants with those who were part of a similar summer event.



▲ Prof. Anne Mulvey, acting director of the Center for Diversity and Pluralism, facilitating a discussion about how to incorporate diversity into coursework at a recent Faculty Institute.

Tom Hayden Speaks on the Irish American "Soul"

Tom Hayden, a leader of anti-war, civil rights and environmental movements since the 1960s and a former California state senator for 18 years, recently spoke on campus about his journey of self-discovery. He tied together his own



▲ Members of the UMass Lowell community who enjoyed a recent talk by author and activist Tom Hayden, third from left, included, from left: Political Science Prof. Susan Gallagher; Political Science Prof. Jeffrey Gerson, who organized the program; Communications Department Staff Assistant Donna Spellissy; and Psychology Prof. Anne Mulvey, acting director of the Center for Diversity and Pluralism. Hayden focused his talk on his journey of self-discovery highlighted in his recently released autobiography, "Irish on the Inside: In Search of the Soul of Irish America."

political activism to the struggles for freedom fought by his Irish ancestors.

Hayden spoke to about 75 faculty members and students, including a class on "The Problems of Northern Ireland," on Jan. 30 at O'Leary Library. The event, sponsored by the UMass Lowell Council on Diversity and Pluralism and the Political Science Department, was organized by Prof. Jeffrey Gerson.

Hayden focused his talk on the subject matter of his recently released work, "Irish on the Inside: In Search of the Soul of Irish America." In this revealing autobiography, Hayden examines his family upbringing, '60s activism, and political and personal development in the context of his Irish heritage. Hayden said that his parents, like so many other Irish Americans of their generation, chose not to pass on their ethnic legacy to their children, in an effort to assimilate into American culture.

After researching his "own story", Thomas Emmet Hayden IV learned that his namesake, Thomas Emmet, was an Irish nationalist leader who fled to this country, became attorney general, was a close friend of American revolutionary Thomas Paine, and fought for human rights for all Americans. Hayden discovered that he "unconsciously" followed a rebel path charted by his ancestor—knowledge that could have helped his youthful efforts for self-understanding had he acquired it while growing up.

"There are an awful lot of people in this country who are well educated, but are absolutely clueless about their own story," he noted.

Hayden has been involved in Irish issues for many years, having been part of the U.S. Department of Commerce's delegation to Northern Ireland in 1995 and author of legislation to include the Irish Famine in California's school curriculum. He is the author and editor of many books including "Irish Hunger" and "Reunion: A Memoir."

Chemistry Scholarship Covers Tuition and Fees for Incoming Student

Dr. Eugene Barry, chair of the Chemistry Department, has announced the Alan J. Scattergood Scholarship in Chemistry. Beginning next September, the scholarship will be awarded to an outstanding new student who graduated from a high school in the region who will major in chemistry at UMass Lowell. This award is made on the basis of academic merit.

The Scattergood Award covers the cost of tuition and fees for a year and may be renewed for a total of four years if the recipient continues to major in chemistry and maintains a grade point average of 2.5. Qualified candidates will be identified based on information included in their application for undergraduate admission.

"Vagina Monologues" Kicks Off Women's Week

A campus performance of the "Vagina Monologues" kicks off Lowell Women's Week, Feb. 28 through Mar. 9. More than three-dozen events and exhibits explore the ways in which women across cultures are able to both survive and thrive in a world that is increasingly uncertain and constantly changing.

Campus sponsors include the Center for Diversity and Pluralism, the Center for Women and Work, the Psychology Department, the Campus Ministry and the Multi-Faith Council.

A popular event is the Women's Week Breakfast held on Monday, March 4 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the American Textile History Museum. Bory Kem, the editor of the bilingual "Cambodian Women News," is the keynote speaker. Tickets are \$15 and space is limited.

Several films by Mira Nair, an award-winning



▲ Eve Ensler, above, wrote the "Vagina Monologues" and established the V-Day Project. The campus community will perform her play as part of Women's Week, Feb. 28, Mar. 2 and 3.

Indian filmmaker and Harvard graduate, offer a penetrating look into the conflicts in the transition from one culture to another. The films being shown include "Salaam Bombay," "Mississippi Masala" and "The Perez Family."

On Tuesday, March 5 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Little Theatre, Lowell High School, the film "5 Girls" will be followed by a discussion facilitated by Prof. Meg Bond, Psychology, Raquel Bauman, Lowell High School, and Erika Lanier, United Teen Equality Center.

Two roundtable discussions will be held on Friday, March 8. "Braided Streams: Women of Faith Speak" features a panel of women representing diverse faith traditions and will be held in O'Leary 222 at 9 a.m. The International Women's Roundtable Discussion will include a performance by the O'Halloran Irish Dance Troupe and will be an open discussion with a panel of internationally born women who now reside in the US. The roundtable starts at 3 p.m. at the Dove Café, St. Joseph the Worker Shrine.

For a complete schedule of events, visit www.lowellwomensweek.org or call 978-970-5000.

UMass Lowell Joins 500 Campuses to Support V-Day Project

UMass Lowell faculty, staff, students and alumni will be part of the campus production of the "Vagina Monologues" during Women's Week. Spearheaded by recent criminal justice graduate Jennie Lightfoot, the performance is part of the V-Day Project. Lightfoot researched the "Vagina Monologues" for a seminar taught by Prof. Anne Mulvey and decided to bring the production to UMass Lowell.

"Our campus is linking with more than 500 other campuses across the country and the world" as part of V-Day Project, said Mulvey, acting director of the Center for Diversity and Pluralism.

Founded by the author of the "Vagina Monologues," Eve Ensler, the V-Day Project stands simultaneously for victory over violence, vagina, and Valentine's Day. Ensler offers the script to campuses for free, including a production kit, with the stipulation that profits go to local and national organizations that fight violence against women. Mulvey explains that Ensler hopes to create a campus and community education process.

The "Vagina Monologues" is a play based on interviews with hundreds of diverse women that explore the mystery, pain, power and wisdom inherent in women's experiences.

Lightfoot has teamed up with psychology/English alumnae Anne Tremblay '93, who will direct the performance.

Performances will be Thursday, Feb. 28 at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 2 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, March 3 at 2 p.m. in O'Leary Library Room 222. A reception will be held before Saturday's performance at 7 p.m. outside of O'Leary 222.

Student Activities, the Psychology Department and the Center for Diversity and Pluralism are sponsoring the "Vagina Monologues." Proceeds from the production will be donated to Alternative House, a co-sponsor of the production, and other organizations that work to prevent violence against women.

For ticket information, contact Anne Mulvey, anne_mulvey@uml.edu or 978-934-4342.

Note Worthy

Author **Jay Atkinson** who teaches in the Continuing Studies Summer Session is enjoying success with his latest book, "Ice Time: A Tale of Fathers, Sons, and Hometown Heroes" (Crown), which Publishers Weekly praised as "a bona-fide masterstroke" and Library Journal described as a "heart-warming tale of personal triumphs." His book about high school hockey in his hometown of Methuen already is in a fourth printing in hardcover. Atkinson will read from his book and autograph copies at the Andover Bookstore, 89 Main Street, Andover, on Friday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m.



▲ Jay Atkinson

Assoc. Prof. Dan Golomb and Prof. Emeritus James A. Fay of MIT have co-authored "Energy and the Environment," a book published by Oxford University Press. The text is an outgrowth of the class notes of Energy and the Environment, a course that Golomb taught for the last dozen years to graduate students in the College of Arts and Sciences and Engineering.

Prof. Kenneth Levasseur of Mathematical Science taught a mini-course in algebra last month to a class of mathematics faculty from throughout the country.

The course, part of the Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Diego, was based on his book "Exploring Abstract Algebra with *Mathematica*."

Prof. Georges Grinstein, a member of the Computer Science faculty and chief technologist for AnVil Informatics, is co-editor of a recently published book that unites data mining and data visualization principles and examines how these combined approaches can lead to increased efficiency and more valuable results.

Titled "Visualization in Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery," the book was released by Morgan Kaufmann Publishers.

Assoc. Prof. Marian Williams of Computer Science has been elected executive vice chair of the international Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction.

Prof. Steele of Computer Science Dies Unexpectedly

Prof. Charlie Steele, who joined the Lowell faculty as a part-time instructor in 1977 and became the Computer Science Department's first official permanent faculty member when the department was created two years later, died unexpectedly on Christmas day.

He and his wife Ursula had just finished a walk on Crane's Beach late in the afternoon when he was stricken by a fatal heart attack.

"While tragic for us, he had just experienced, and had personally celebrated, a joyous day," says Prof. Tom Costello, chair of the department.

Costello says Prof. Steele had "an unquenchable thirst to learn" and that he was "committed to the institution and the students. In those early days, he began a long-term practice of adding classes to *his workload* whenever he found students with a need for them."

On Friday evenings, for at least 15 years, he conducted three-hour tutorial sessions for students needing help, and he hosted socials once a month for graduate students.

A Merit Scholar in high school, Steele attended Boston College before leaving school for several years to provide active support to the anti-Castro movement in Miami.

He eventually returned to BC where he earned bachelor's and



▲ Prof. Charlie Steele

master's degrees in mathematics. Later, he earned a master's in electrical engineering from Northeastern University, and a master's degree in computer science from Boston

University. He also completed the course syllabus for a doctorate in operations research at MIT.

While at BC, Prof. Steele developed a keen interest in Irish history and, as a result, learned to read, write and speak Gaelic. He also was fluent in Spanish.

As the Computer Science Department evolved, adding master's and doctoral programs, Prof. Steele continued to carry a full load of classes and, at the same time, coordinated the graduate program for at least 10 years.

"The courses he taught were hard ones," Costello says. And, while he was known for "growling" at his classes, Costello adds, "he was very understanding with students."

Those wishing to honor his memory are invited to make a donation to the Professor Charlie Steele Memorial Scholarship Fund in care of the Computer Science Department.

College of Health Professions Names Advisory Board

Dr. Janice M. Stecchi, dean of the College of Health Professions, has announced the formation of a College Advisory Board. The Board, which held its first meeting in October, is charged with helping to create and cultivate a climate of financial and programmatic support for the college by fostering a broad network of individual and corporate partners, and increasing visibility, both regionally and nationally, for the college and its programs.

Chairperson of the Board is Alan Solomont, '77, president of Solomont Bailis Ventures in Newton. Members include Thom Clark, president and chief executive officer of Saints Memorial Medical Center in Lowell; Pam DiNapoli, '00, first recipient of the college's Ph.D. in Nursing; Joan Hull, chief executive officer of Home Health VNA, Merrimack Valley Hospice and HomeCare, Inc. in Lawrence; Pat McGovern, executive vice president of CareGroup, Inc. in Boston; Denise McQuaide, '79 and

'82, senior vice president of Genesis Elder Care in Andover; Susan Petullo LaRoche, '85, president of Therafit in Lowell; Joyce Shannon, senior vice president of Care Management/Quality Resources in Burlington; Gerald W. St. Peter, '89, national director of sales for Muro Pharmaceuticals in Tewksbury; and Dr. Edward J. Weiner, regional scientific business director of AstraZeneca LP in Providence.

In addition, the dean and department chairs of the college serve on the Board. The dean will also appoint one student from each department to serve.

"Our Board members all hold significant positions in the health care industry," says Stecchi. "That means they understand the opportunities and demands faced by College of Health Professions graduates. They share a great respect for our students and a willingness to help us reach the goals and objectives of the college."

Promotions Appointments

Promotions

Maryjo Finn-Ryan, Maintainer II in Physical Plant, from Maintainer I.

John J. Gervais, Maintainer II in Physical Plant, from Maintainer I.

Dulcelina Golas, Maintainer II in Physical Plant, from Maintainer I.

Steve F. Pestana, Maintainer II in Physical Plant, from Maintainer I.

Paula M. Rodriquez, Maintainer II in Physical Plant, from Maintainer I.

Jeffrey Santos, Maintainer II in Physical Plant, from Maintainer I.

Nancy R. Whiting, Maintainer II in Physical Plant, from Maintainer I.

Appointments

Christine Bomil, Maintainer I in Physical Plant, from University mailroom.

Jea C. Cho, postdoctoral research in the Chemistry Department, from senior research scientist at L.G. Chemical Ltd.

William J. Gorveatt, junior laser scientist in the Research Foundation, from the UMass Lowell class of 2001.

Shannon M. (LeBlanc) Hlebichuk '98, head field hockey coach in Athletics, from Arizona State graduate school.

Marc D. Metzler, Maintainer I in Residence Life, from Casual Cleaners in Dracut.

Sara E. Right, project associate in the Research Foundation, from Lowell Center for Sustainable Production.

Clifford F. Smith, maintainer I in Physical Plant, from Maids to Order in Lowell.

Research Notes

Boccia, Judith
\$100,000
Lowell Public Schools
The Lowell Program

Boccia, Judith and Christensen, Charles
\$21,600
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Summer Mentor Training Institutes

Boccia, Judith
\$268,121
Lowell School Department
Leadership Academy: High School Leadership Academy, Staff Development, Teacher Institutes, School Site Council Training

Braunhut, Susan J.
\$11,500
Sensera, Inc.
Cell Culture

Canning, James
\$42,308
Mercury Computer Systems, Inc.
Making Array-Based Data Parallel Programming Easier for Customers of Mercury Computer Systems, Inc.

Cassel, Scott
\$5,084
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
State and Local Product Stewardship Assistance

Chandra, Kavitha; Daniels, Karen and Thompson, Charles
\$400,000
National Science Foundation
Information Sciences, Engineering and Technology Scholars Program (ISET)

Christensen, Charles
\$78,750
Massachusetts Department of Education
Massachusetts Institute for New Teachers

Christensen, Charles
\$32,340
Greater Lawrence Technical High School
Leadership Development Program

Chowdhury, Partha
\$40,000
BioPhysics Assay Laboratory (BioPAL), Inc.
Automated Compton-Suppressed, Coincidence Counting System

Chowdhury, Partha
\$408,000
U.S. Department of Energy/ACQ
Single-Particle and Collective Phenomena in Nuclei

Coulombe, Michael
\$73,670
Massachusetts Institute of Technology/Lincoln Laboratory
Compact Range Aircraft Data Collection

Daniels, Karen
\$7,943
Harvard University
HCTAR Project

Donahue, Matthew
\$40,000
EPA New England
UMass Lowell EMS Service Program

Fiddy, Michael and Goodhue, William
\$189,114
U.S. Air Force Research Lab
Design of Optical System and Development of Photoconductive Based MEMS Spatial Light Modulator for Real Time Wavefront Correction System

Forrant, Robert and Silka, Linda
\$20,000
Northeastern University
An Evaluation Proposal for Northeastern University's Center for Urban and Regional Policy Third Tier Cities Project

Forrant, Robert and Lazonick, William
\$35,000
Russell Sage Foundation
"Growing Your Own" in the "New Economy": A Study of Skill Formation in the New England Optical Networking Industry

Gamache, Robert
\$151, 379
NASA
Theory in Support of Laboratory Spectroscopy for AIRS, TES, and HIRDLS

Gartner, Nathan H. and Stamatiadis, Chronis
\$20,000
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Development of a Web-Based Course on Traffic Principles for Intelligent Transportation Systems

Geiser, Kenneth
\$40,962
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
Cleaner Production Policy Review

Gibson, Joyce and Silka, Linda
\$50,000
Nellie Mae Foundation
Lowell GearUp Sustainability Partnership

Giles, Robert and Waldman, Jerry
\$25,189,370
Department of the Army
Submillimeter-Wave Radar Signature Support

Goodhue, William and Sung, Changmo
\$882,336
DARPA/MTO
Low Defect Density Substrates and High Quality Epi-Substrate Interfaces for ABCS Devices

Goodhue, William
\$404,016
U.S. Air Force
Development of Advanced Fabrication Processes and Devices

Goodhue, William
\$16,785
Scientific Solutions, Inc.
Engineering Assistance

Hall, Garth
\$1,017,452
National Institutes of Health
An in situ Neuronal Model of PHF-TAU Accumulation in AD

Hellstedt, Jon
\$5,473
Office of Employment and Training Administration
National Youth Sports Program (NYSP)

Hellstedt, Jon
\$10,000
City of Lowell
Enhancements for NYSP Program

Hellstedt, Jon
\$7,000
National Youth Sports Corp.
UMass Lowell Girls Sports Clinics

Kegel, Gunter
\$13,800
PPG Industries, Inc.
Radiation Damage Studies of Steel Coupons

Kegel, Gunter
\$5,375
Assurance Technology Corp.
Gamma Radiation Effects on Electronic Components

Kuhn, Sara
\$17,500
Harvard University
Fellowship Stipend

Lai, Francis
\$37,107
L.J. Tech, Inc.
Compounding and Processing of the Polyacetal Copolymer

Lawton, Carl
\$210,000
Cell Science Therapeutics, Inc.
GLP Production of STxB-cys

Lawton, Carl
\$27,814
Ion Optics, Inc.
Self Assembled Bacteria: A Route to Tuned Photonic Bandgap Materials for Infrared Chemical Sensing

Lazonick, William
\$49,973
National Science Foundation
The Stock Market and Innovative Capability in the "New Economy"

Levenstein, Charles
\$37,152
Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical & Energy Workers International Union
The Department of Energy National Institute of Environmental Health and Safety Training Grant

COHP Celebrates 10th Anniversary

For a decade now, the Construction Occupational Health Project (COHP), a program within the Work Environment Department, has been searching for ways to reduce the occupational risks that workers in the construction trades face on a day-to-day basis. Much of COHP's research has focused on highway construction workers involved with the Big Dig project, according to COHP Project Manager Scott Fulmer. "These guys are rugged and often more robust than the average person. They have to be," Fulmer explains. "That's just the nature of their profession. But like every one else, they certainly have their physical limits." COHP studies have been conducted on over 700 construction workers during the ongoing modernization of the Central Artery in Boston. Workers in the construction trades often suffer occupational hazards exclusive to their profession. Common injuries result from carrying oversized and heavy materials and working in awkward positions on assignments below the feet or above the head. "A large part of our research is based on work-related neck, shoulder, wrist and back muscu-

loskeletal disorders," says Fulmer. "But we're also very concerned with pulmonary disease and illnesses linked to airborne contaminants such as silica dust and diesel fumes." Research is just one aspect of a broader COHP goal. "Our investigators are trying to identify the sources of injury and illness on job sites so that we can satisfy our main objective," adds Fulmer, "which is to develop procedures and techniques that lead to risk prevention among workers." Some of the prevention measures already established include training that educates workers on how to recognize and resolve potentially hazardous situations, changes in work organization that will decrease the risk of injury, and the implementation of new technology and tool design that will reduce safety and health problems. Fulmer credits a great deal of COHP's success to the willingness of construction workers to participate in research efforts. "I can't stress enough how valuable worker input is to our cause. It's a great benefit to be able to travel to job sites and hear what people have to say," continues Fulmer. "Our job is to listen and help."

Levenstein, Charles
\$55,000
AFSCME Training and Education Institute
Worker Health and Safety Training Cooperative Agreement

Luskin, Jack
\$17,000
U.S. EPA- Region 7
Seminars entitled, “Pollution Prevention for Pretreatment Coordinators”

Luskin, Jack
\$40,962
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
Cleaner Production Policy Review

Malloy, Robert
\$50,000
Chelsea Center for Recycling and Economic Development
Development of Synthetic Aggregate for Construction Material

Mawn, Barbara
\$12,365
Children’s Hospital
Nutritional Assessment and Interventions in Pediatric HIV Infection

McCarthy, Stephen
\$15,000
OSRAM Sylvania, Inc.
Injection Molding

Megherbi, Dalila
\$10,777,100
SDRC
I-DEAS as a Tool for Engineering Research and Curriculum Innovation and Enhancement at UMass Lowell

Montesalvo, Mary
\$5,375
Assurance Technology Corp.
Gamma Radiation Effects on Electronic Components

Montesalvo, Mary
\$13,800
PPG Industries, Inc.
Radiation Damage Studies of Steel Coupons

Moure-Eraso, Rafael and Wegman, David
\$500,000
National Institutes of Health
Work and Health in Mexico and Brazil

Moure-Eraso, Rafael and Silka, Linda
\$30,600
National Institutes of Health
Refugees and Immigrants “New Ventures” E J Partnership

Nicolosi, Robert
\$5,921
Nisshin Oil Mills Ltd.
Protocol for Nisshin Oil Mills Ltd. Study

Nicolosi, Robert
\$63,656
Archer Daniels Midland
Soy Fraction Studies

Ossen, Vera
\$24,000
Board of Higher Education Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Institute for New Teachers

Ossen, Vera
\$78,750
Massachusetts Department of Education
Massachusetts Institute for New Teachers

Ossen, Vera
\$6,245
Massachusetts Department of Education
Implementation of a High Stakes Performance Assessment for Practicing Teachers

Ossen, Vera
\$10,355
Massachusetts Department of Education
Implementation of a High Stakes Performance Assessment for Practicing Teachers

Pho, Lan T.
\$45,368
Bristol Meyers Squibb
Pilot Internships for Minority Students with Dupont Pharmaceuticals

Pierson, Donald
\$7,040
Lawrence Public Schools
Research Methods for Practitioners

Rayman, Paula
\$584,674
National Science Foundation
ITW: Women in Information Technology Workplaces: A Study of Women Computer Science Degree Recipients in the Software Industry

Reinisch, Bodo
\$426,180
Institute for Solar-Terrestrial Physics
Four Station DPS-4 Ionospheric Observatory Network in Russia with Transmit Antennae

Reinisch, Bodo
\$10,000
Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp.
Space Environment Sensor Suite

Reinisch, Bodo
\$6,800
National Central University
Digital Portable Sounder Upgrade

Roberts, Kay
\$100,000
American String Teachers Association
String Project Grant

Rooney-Varga, Juliette
\$5,390
Burlington Biomedical & Scientific Corp
Antimicrobial Research Project

Rooney-Varga, Juliette
\$317,883
National Science Foundation
Bacteriaphytoplankton Interactions: The Influence of Marine Bacteria on Alexandrium spp. Blooms in the Gulf of Maine

Sandman, Daniel J.
\$60,000
The Petroleum Research Fund
Application of Carbohydrate Reagents to Synthesis of Conjugated Molecular and Macromolecular Systems

Silka, Linda and Toomey, Dan
\$22,500
Massachusetts Campus Compact
After-School Mentoring and Tutoring in the Immigrant City

Silka, Linda and West, Cheryl
\$269,154
National Science Foundation
Project SPLASH

Simmons, Jay
\$24,000
Lowell School Department
Greenhalge, Pawtucketville Memorial and Mcavinnue Schools

Siqueira, Carlos
\$55,000
AFSCME Training and Education Institute
Worker Health and Safety Training Cooperative Agreement

Song, Paul
\$139,866
National Science Foundation
A Study of the Processes of the Magnetosheath

Sung, Changmo
\$34,200
Ballard Materials Products
Microcharacterization of C/C Composite Paper

Student-Run Drama Group Acts Out on Campus

When the Off-Broadway Players take the stage this spring to perform *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, you may recognize among the frock coats and corsets an engineering major, a graduate student, an athlete or an artist. You’ll see some polished thespians booming their lines to the back row, and some sheepish newcomers, blinking under the stage lights for the first time. The Off-Broadway Players enter the wings from every corner of the University.

“We have people from all different majors and places on campus. It’s a nice blend. All you have to do is come out,” says Off-Broadway secretary Joshua Smith, of the open casting call for this alternative campus theater troupe.

At the start of each school year, the returning players hold a meeting to recruit and introduce new members to the group. From there, they decide on the production, and cull the cast from the assembled members. There are about 30 regulars, Smith says, but twice that number drift in and out of the Off-Broadway ranks for different productions—a musical like *Drood* in the spring, or a songless production in the fall.

The group keeps an office above Mahoney Gymnasium,

where the members meet with Psychology Department chair Charlotte Mandell, the faculty adviser, to balance the budget and plan productions. The troupe’s leaders often assemble during the season to plan for the upcoming year.

Mandell has so far remained in the wings, but she has acted in the past in community theater productions, and hasn’t ruled out joining a student production in the future.

“I have been known to act,” she concedes.

Mandell has traced the Off-Broadway Players back to the 1930s, when the first student-run theater groups evolved at the University. Since then there have been many incarnations leading up to the current group, which performs in Mahoney Auditorium.

Though the players receive no academic credit for their work, the core group has become very devoted, Smith says. With a Student Activities stipend and the profits from ticket sales, they put together the sets, rent the costumes and stage a few productions every school year. The intensity of the preparation tends to bring people together.

“A lot of my closest friends are from Off-Broadway Players,” Smith says. “It gets addictive.”



▲ The cast of the Off-Broadway Players’ production of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, dressed down for rehearsal, takes a collective bow.

The Shuttle is published by the Publications Office, UMass Lowell, One University Avenue, Lowell, MA 01854. Tel. 934-3223.

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The University of Massachusetts Lowell is an Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action, Title IX, H/V, ADA 1990 Employer.

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, Feb. 13

Reception and Exhibition, "The Big Show," annual juried student exhibit at the Dugan Gallery. Reception from 2 to 4 p.m., award presentation at 3 p.m. Exhibition runs from Jan. 29 through Feb. 21.

Colloquium, Physics Spring Colloquium, "Chandra Observations of Very Black Black Holes," by Dr. Michael Garcia of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, 4 p.m., Olney 428. Refreshments at 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 16

Women's Basketball, vs. New Haven, 2 p.m., Costello Gym. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Hockey, vs. Boston University, 7 p.m., Tsongas Arena. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Monday, Feb. 18

Women's Basketball, vs. Southern New Hampshire, 5:30 p.m., Costello Gym. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Men's Basketball, vs. Southern New Hampshire, 7:30 p.m., Costello Gym. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Wednesday, Feb. 20

Colloquium, Spring Physics Colloquium, "The Colorful World of Nanocrystal Quantum Dots," Professor Moonji Bawendi of MIT, 4 p.m., Olney 428. Refreshments at 3:30 p.m.

Chancellor's Open Hours, Staff: 2 to 3 p.m., students: 3 to 4 p.m., faculty: 4 to 5 p.m.; Trustees' Room, Cumnock Hall.

Friday, March 1

Hockey, vs. Providence College, 7 p.m., Tsongas Arena. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Sunday, March 3

Performance, Discovery Series, John McCutcheon, folk music for children. Best for ages 4 to 10. Tickets \$9; group discounts available, 2 p.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus. For information, call (978) 934-4444.

Monday, March 4

Training, 40-hour hazardous waste site worker training, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wannalancit Mill. Course runs through March 8.

Concert, UMass Lowell Wind Ensemble concerto competition, directed by Prof. David Martins, 7:30 p.m., Durgin Concert Hall.

Wednesday, March 6

Reception and Exhibition, Kathy Marmor, "The Dynamics of Forgetting: Screen Memories," an installation. Reception from 3 to 7 p.m., with a gallery talk at 3 p.m. Exhibition runs from Feb. 27 through April 3.

Reception and Exhibition, Student Sculpture, curated by Prof. Jim Coates. Reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Exhibition runs from Feb. 27 through April 3.

Colloquium, Spring Physics Colloquium, "International Nuclear Safeguards in Central Asia," Dr. Parrish Staples of the Los Alamos National Laboratories, 4 p.m., Olney 428. Refreshments served at 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 13

Chancellor's Open Hours, Staff, 2 to 3 p.m., students, 3 to 4 p.m., faculty, 4 to 5 p.m.; Trustees' Room, Cumnock Hall, North Campus.

Colloquium, Spring Physics Colloquium, "What Can RHIC Tell us About QCD," by Prof. John Dawson of the University of New Hampshire, 4 p.m., Olney 428. Refreshments at 3:30 p.m.

Friday, March 15

Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series, "Reading Rainbow," 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., Durgin Hall. Recommended for grades K-3. For information, call the Center for the Arts at ext. 4452.

Monday, March 18

Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series, "Olympic Spirit," grades 4 - 6, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus. For information, call the Center for the Arts at ext. 4452.

Wednesday, March 20

Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series, Jim West's "Dinosaurs," grades 7 - 10, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus. For information, call the Center for the Arts at ext. 4452.

Tuesday, March 26

Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series, "Romeo and Juliet," grades 7 - 10, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus. For information, call the Center for the Arts at ext. 4452.

Thursday, April 4

Performance, "The Republic of My Imagination," by Gerald Dickens, great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens, 7:30 p.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus. For information, call Rick Sherburne at ext. 3232, or go to www.uml.edu/dickens.

Friday, April 5

Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series,

"Laura Ingalls Wilder: Growing Up on the Prairie," grades 3-5, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 6

Performance, "Mr. Dickens is Coming!" by Gerald Dickens, great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens, 7:30 p.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus. For information, call Rick Sherburne at ext. 3232, or go to www.uml.edu/dickens.



Higgins Sworn in to Public Safety Post

▲ Carol Higgins, criminal justice, B.S. '82, M.A. '90, with Dean Nancy Kleniewski, right, welcomes guests after her swearing in as Undersecretary of Public Safety at the Billerica Town Hall. Higgins, a Billerica native, served most recently as superintendent of the Essex County Correctional Facility and has been on the adjunct faculty in criminal justice for several years.

Did you know...

that there are a total of 4010 parking spaces on the North and South campuses?

For Extra Credit...

Which parking lot is the biggest?

Answer: With 905 spaces, the Riverview lot on South Campus is the largest on campus.



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